

a balloon on the catheter distal shaft section, having an interior in fluid communication with the inflation lumen, proximal and distal ends, a proximal shaft section, and a distal shaft section adhesively secured to the catheter shaft, the balloon distal shaft section having an outer surface tapering distally; and

1 a distal tip member having a proximal-most end and a distal-most end, an outer surface tapering distally to a smaller outer diameter from the proximal-most end of the distal tip member toward the distal-most end of the distal tip member, a lumen in fluid communication with the catheter shaft guidewire receiving lumen, and a proximal portion adhesively secured to the balloon distal shaft section and the catheter shaft.

13. (Twice Amended) A method of forming a balloon catheter, comprising:

providing a catheter assembly including a catheter shaft having proximal and distal ends, and a balloon having proximal and distal ends with an interior and a distal shaft section with an interior surface;

providing a tip member having a proximal-most end and a distal-most end;

positioning the distal end of the catheter shaft within the interior of the balloon distal shaft section and terminating at a point distal to the balloon distal end;

providing adhesive along the exterior surface of the catheter shaft extending underneath the balloon distal shaft;

positioning the proximal-most end of the tip member adjacent the balloon distal end;

adhesively bonding at least a portion of the balloon distal shaft section to the catheter shaft; and

D² adhesively bonding at least a portion of the tip member to the catheter shaft and at least a portion of the tip member to the balloon distal shaft section, to thereby form a distal tip portion of the catheter having an outer surface tapering distally along the adhesively bonded portion of the balloon distal shaft section and the distal tip member, with the tip member having an outer surface tapering distally from the proximal-most end of the tip member toward the distal-most end of the tip member.
